

PROBATION

POLICY DESCRIPTION FORM

DEPARTMENT/GROUP: Community Correct – Adult (PRB)/Law and Justice BUDGET CODE: AAA PRB
 TITLE: Sex Offender Program

PRIORITY: Rank 1 of 7 FUNDING: Full Year ☒ Other: ☐ _____ mos.

ITEM STATUS: Restoration: ☐ Program Change: ☐ Workload: ☒

OPERATIONAL AND/OR FISCAL IMPACT: (Clearly explain the impact on services (attach additional pages if required))

See Attached

	2002-03	ONGOING 2003-04
APPROPRIATIONS		
Salaries & Benefits (attach additional page if required)	\$ <u>837,447</u>	\$ _____
CLASSIFICATIONS		
<u>Budgeted Staff</u> <u>Title</u> <u>Amount</u>		

Services & Supplies	<u>265,573</u>	_____
Other (Specify) <u>Transfers</u>	<u>50,400</u>	_____
Equipment	<u>123,370</u>	_____
FIXED ASSETS		
<u>Item</u> <u>Amount</u>		

Reimbursements (Specify) _____	_____	_____
TOTAL:	\$ <u>1,276,790</u>	\$ _____
REVENUE (Specify Source)		
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
TOTAL:	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ _____
LOCAL COST	\$ <u>1,276,790</u>	\$ _____

PROBATION

SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM

Program Change

Adult Services – Adult Sex Offender Program

One (1) Supervising Probation Officer

One (1) Probation Officer III

Ten (10) Probation Officer II's

Two (2) Clerk II's

Five (5) Cars

Sex offenders on adult probation represent one of the highest threats to public safety of any group of criminals under supervised release. Their crimes, which often have a lifelong, profound effect on their victims and families, almost always involve multiple victims, most of whom are helpless against their advances. One self-report study of 153 child molesters accounted for 22,981 victims.

These predators are among the most difficult to supervise because of the hidden nature of their crimes and a reluctance of their victims to come forward. Public awareness of this public safety issue and the danger that sex offenders represent in the community has increased recently, resulting in Megan's Law, mandatory offender registration and community access to lists of offenders. The traditional method of supervising these offenders in this county has offered little in the way of public protection. They are mixed into the regular adult caseloads and assigned a Probation Officer who has an average caseload size of 1290, where the average face-to-face contact with a PO occurs every 3 to 6 months. Because these offenders are secretive, manipulative and convincing felons who specialize in keeping their activities hidden from the authorities, smaller caseloads of specially trained PO's are necessary to effectively supervise these people.

The most serious sex offenders are required by Penal Code section 290, to register with their local law enforcement agency. There are approximately 400 P.C. 290 registrants sex offenders under probation supervision in San Bernardino County. One specially trained unit of 10 probation officers could supervise all of these offenders, with a caseload ratio of 1:40, providing regular home visits, home searches, computer searches for pornography, enforce attendance in counseling and therapy sessions and protect potential victims.

In addition to the 10 Probation Officers, 1 Supervisor, 1 PO III, 2 clerks, equipment and space to house the unit would be necessary. Salaries, benefits, equipment (cars, radios, safety equipment, which are one time cost) and space for 1 year is 1.5 million dollars.